

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/063,786

Examiner

Jin-Cheng Wang

Applicant(s)

DOAN ET AL.

Art Unit

2628

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 6/8/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6, 8, 10-13 and 15-19.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Reasons for Allowance

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance of claims 1-6, 8, 10-13, and 15-18 in the amendment of 6/8/2006: Nothing in the prior art anticipates or suggests, "an annotation level selection including full annotation level, a partial annotation level, a custom annotation level, and a none annotation level, wherein the full annotation level displays a current acquisition status, a current reformat location, a current reformat thickness, a date, a patient name, and a hospital name" in a method for managing axial images, the method comprising: receiving at least a portion of a reconstructed axial image, wherein said reconstructed axial image includes a pre-selected number of completed reconstructed slices, a slice thickness and an interval value; creating a reformatted axial image in response to said portion of said reconstructed axial image, wherein said creating includes: modifying said slice thickness in response to a user render option input; updating said interval value in response to user interval value input; and displaying said reformatted axial image in response to user display input, said user display input comprises: an instruction to save a current view of said reformatted axial image in a secondary capture image format; and an annotation level selection including full annotation level, a partial annotation level, a custom annotation level, and a none annotation level, wherein the full annotation level displays a current acquisition status, a current reformat location, a current reformat thickness, a date, a patient name, and a hospital name, as set forth in the independent claim 1.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance of claim 19 in the amendment of 6/8/2006: Nothing in the prior art anticipates or suggests, "*an annotation level selection including full annotation level, a partial annotation level, a custom annotation level,*

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and a none annotation level, wherein the full annotation level displays a current acquisition status, a current reformat location, a current reformat thickness, a date, a patient name, and a hospital name” in a method for managing axial images, the method comprising: receiving a reconstructed axial image, wherein said reconstructed axial image includes a slice thickness and an interval value; creating a reformatted axial image in response to said reconstructed axial image, wherein said creating includes: modifying said slice thickness in response to a user slice thickness input; modifying a pixel intensity in response to a user render option input; updating said interval value in response to user interval value input wherein said user interval input includes an explicit value for said interval value; and displaying said reformatted axial image in response to user display input, said user display input comprises: an instruction to save a current view of said reformatted axial image in a secondary capture image format; and an annotation level selection including full annotation level, a partial annotation level, a custom annotation level, and a none annotation level, wherein the full annotation level displays a current acquisition status, a current reformat location, a current reformat thickness, a date, a patient name, and a hospital name, as set forth in the independent claim 19.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jin-Cheng Wang whose telephone number is (571) 272-7665. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 - 6:30 (Mon-Thu).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kee Tung can be reached on (571) 272-7794. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

jcw



KEE M. TUNG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER